

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

*** 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 ***

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Parashat **Terumah Shekalim***

Maqam Bayat

*Haftarat **Vayichrot Yehoyada***

1st Adar 5785

Issue #1109

March 1st 2025

*Candle Lighting 5:28pm * Shekiah 5:46pm * Shir Hashirim 5:20pm followed by Mincha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Mincha Shabbat 5:10pm * Shabbat Ends 6:29pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:59pm
Time for Talit 5:24am * Seasonal Hour 66 * Alot Hashahar 5:11am * Netz Hachama 6:30am
Weekday Mincha 5:40pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 5:02pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:24pm * Chatzot 12:08
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:29am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:35am*

***Friday 2/28 and Shabbat 3/1 will be Rosh Hodesh Adar
Zecher L'Machatzit HaShekel this year is valued at \$11.***

Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Bnei Yisrael said Naaseh Venishmah in Parashat Yitro when they accepted the Torah, they received the laws of the Torah in Parashat Mishpatim, and then in this week's Parashat Terumah Hashem tells them to build a Mishkan so that He will dwell within them. Why wasn't the commandment to build a Mishkan written immediately after they accepted the Torah by Har Sinai? To teach us, there is a condition that we must fulfill in order for Hashem to rest within us. It is not enough to accept the Torah, we have to fulfill the laws of the Torah as well. If Bnei Yisrael observe all the Mitzvot that pertain to man and his fellow, living in peace and harmony, then Hashem's Shechinah will be within us. In Parashat Terumah we speak about the Aron, the Shulchan, the Mizbeah, and the Menorah. The Aron is the crown of Torah, The Shulchan is the crown of sovereignty, the Mizbeah is the crown of service and priesthood, and the Menorah is the crown of credibility, integrity, and a good name. A good name is the most important crown, for it testifies on the completeness of man. Learning Torah and performing Mitzvot are very important, but without credibility, without integrity, and

without a good name they do not testify on the essence of a person. It is not enough to learn Gemara, what's important is how much the Gemara changes you as a person. Actions are only as powerful as the degree that it shapes and forms the person to become greater, with integrity and therefore a good name. Hashem tells us that He will rest within us, not just among us, because we each must be fitting and deserving to host Hashem's holy Shechinah within ourselves, if we each perform with integrity and the proper Midot, and glorify the image of Hashem that we have been created with. This is what unifies us and makes us a nation. The Menorah symbolizes unity through its light and spirituality. If the nation's unity is compromised, then the effects of the Menorah's light is dimmed. The Pasuk teaches us that Hashem commanded Moshe to make the Menorah out of one solid piece of gold, not from parts to be constructed together. Moshe was perplexed on how to accomplish this task and needed Hashem's help. The Menorah symbolizes Bnei Yisrael's unity and bond as a nation and as a people, together as one under Hashem. It is true that each and every one of us thinks differently and reacts in diverse ways

to certain given situations. What's more, we can each feel and believe that our choice of actions in life is correct and our own path of thought is justified. Nonetheless, we must unite. How can such a people naturally be able to form a unity and bond to progress and serve Hashem together as one? We must emulate the Menorah, and truly be as one, by perfecting our Midot and have a good name. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – *“The Cherubim shall be with wings spread upward...with their faces toward one another...”* When you plant a seed in the ground, what sprouts forth depends on what type of seed it is, and the quality of the product will depend on how much you work on nourishing it. Our Sages teach us: the home of a family is compared the Mishkan of Hashem in which the holy Shechinah rests upon. If the parents follow the laws of family purity, Shabbat, Kashrut, and govern according to the Torah's commandments, then the Shechinah will rest upon their home, within them and their children, and their children will be like the Cherubim upon the holy Aron, pure as angels, like pure gold, faces towards each other in unity and peace, with aspirations of holiness and spirituality, without any interest in smoking, alcohol, or other recreational substances. They will grow with the proper Midot, honoring one another, with integrity, and will not fall prey to jealousy, hatred, cursing, vengeance, and other terrible character faults. With the Torah, you will plant good seeds, and you will merit children as angels.

History in Brief

180 years after the Hurban, calendar year 250. Rebi Yochanan Bar Nafcha's parents both passed away when he was born. He grew up as an orphan in his grandfather's home, in the city of Rabbenu Hakadosh. He was a descendant of Yosef and was very good

looking. When his mother was pregnant with him, on Yom Kippur she had a strong craving for a food she smelled. Rebbe just had to tell her that it was Yom Kippur today, and the craving went away. Rebi Yochanan was once attacked with an illness on Yom Kippur that required him to eat right away to avoid complications, and he immediately ate a fig to medicate. From his youth he toiled in learning Torah, learning in the Yeshiva of Rebbe. They would support him from the house of the Nasi. He was healthy, strong, and his mind was sharp in his learning. His memory was clear and complete, and he even remembered the faces of midwives that helped his mother give birth to him. When he learned from Rebbe, Rebbe would comment that he was certain that Rebi Yochanan would one day be a leader, a judge, and a teacher of his people, and this one day became reality. When Rebbe passed away to the next world, Rebi Yochanan became the Rosh Yeshiva from all the Amoraim in Talmud, serving for forty years as Rosh Yeshiva. In his youth he sat amongst the great last of the Tanaim, and took part in the compilation of the Mishnayot during the days of Rebbe.

Health and Recovery

Bone growth and overall health requires calcium, and vitamin D helps the blood and body absorb the calcium. The more vitamin D a person has, the better the absorption of calcium. If a person makes sure to have enough vitamin D from a young age, he can prevent bone problems developing in the future. As a person ages, his bones gradually weaken over time. Weakened bones are more susceptible to breaks and fractures in the event of an injury or a fall. There are a number of medications that have the side effect of reducing calcium levels in the body. Such medication, even though they may be important for the heart, liver, or other organs, needs to be supplemented with calcium and vitamin D in order to maintain a healthy level

of calcium in the body and promote bone strength. Speak to your doctor when taking medications and ask if you should make sure to properly supplement calcium levels, as well as vitamin D.

Mussar: *Shalom Bayit (Peace at Home)*

Every person is able and obligated to create an atmosphere of paradise at home with his family. Love and affection should be felt in the air. If one is successful, then he is at peace with Hashem as well. When a husband and wife are friendly and affectionate with one another, then they have 'Shalom', peace, which is also 'Shelemut', completeness. A couple is compared to fire and water. When they are at peace, then the heavens are at peace as well, and Hashem takes pride and glory from such a household, a family that even affects the angels. The worlds are united through peace. Heaven forbid, if the opposite transpires and fights fill the household, then curses, pain, suffering, and evil are unleashed, and bitter times hit the family. They are destined for Gehinam as the 'fire' heats and evaporates the 'water', and the 'water' extinguishes the 'fire' in their family. Poverty, heretic dealings, and deceitfulness are then brought about. Heaven forbid if divorce should occur as a result of their fights, then their bond with heaven is broken, which is then the source of many problems that occur upon the land. Therefore, everyone must learn to forgive and forget. Do not hold a grudge; rather, help each other improve. Increase the honor and care that is provided for one another, for then the Shechinah will rest upon your household and fill it with blessings and happiness, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2013

Maran Hacham Ovadia learned Torah from Rabbi Eliyahu Lofes, and after he grew older, he said that he learned from R' Lofes the correct way to use his own wisdom throughout his life, with Derech Eretz, peacefully and

calmly. When R' Lofes passed away in 1978, Hacham Ovadia eulogized him and included, that all the Midot Tovot he had were in the merit of R' Lofes, who taught him to work on perfecting his Midot and always pursue good deeds. He taught Hacham Ovadia not to grow too quickly, but should focus on gradual growth. He would advise him a lot regarding all areas of Halacha. Before the 1900s, there was a group of men in Jerusalem who were Freemasons, members of a closed organization that arose in the 18th century. Many were from different faiths. The origins of Freemasonry guilds are not exactly known. Their activities and functions are hidden from those not in the group. They would convene once a year in private. Many Jewish and even religious men were members, and otherwise conducted their lives regularly throughout the year. The question was posed to R' Lofes if these Jewish men should be allowed to be members of the Kahal, and he answered that because their involvement has nothing to do with religion, and many of them are heaven fearing Jews, therefore there is not reservations against allowing them to be members of our congregations and their families marrying into other Jewish families.

Story

One morning, when the mother came to her daughter's bedside to wake her up, hoping to discuss possible options regarding her Shidduchim, she found her daughter looking very weak, her eyelids were heavy, her lips were chapped, and she couldn't physically get herself out of bed. The doctors came immediately to check on her. After examining their patient, they could not figure out a medical reason for her physical decline. They could not diagnose why she was unable to stand on her legs. When the father R' Chaim returned from Bet Midrash after learning all day, the mother approached her husband. She told him how she never stopped him from his learning, not when they were hungry, not

when they were struggling financially. She understood the value of Torah and the sacrifice for it. Now they were unfortunately facing a situation that seemed life threatening, which is so important that one must stop learning in order to handle properly. She told him he should take their daughter to visit the great Tzaddik R' Noam Elimelech, who was known to help cure those who were mysteriously sick through the power of his holy prayers, and they could be certain he will bring a salvation for their daughter.

Laws

1 – The following requires Netillat Yadayim: after touching a Jew who went off the Derech, a father who touches his daughter who is Niddah or a son who touches his mother who is Niddah, or a husband who accidentally touches his wife who is Niddah, or touching any woman who is Niddah, or touching an Avodah Zara.

2 – The following also requires Netillat Yadayim: touching a non-kosher animal such as a dog or a cat. Touching a kosher animal does not require Netillah afterwards, such as sheep and cows, as long as they are clean, but if they are not clean then Netillah is required afterwards.

3 – If you touch an area of your body that is usually covered, if you touch inside your ear or inside your nose, or if you bathe your whole body, then you need to wash Netillah afterwards.

4 – Our Rabbanim teach us, if a person is supposed to wash his hands Netillat Yadayim and fails to do so, this will negatively affect his life, his prayers and his learning will be negatively affected, and in his older years his mind will weaken and he will suffer poverty.

Sponsors

*** **Mr. Joey Hafes, his wife Sharon, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Aharon and Esther,**

Mabrouk, Amen. *** **Mr. Yehoshua Houdrie HaCohen, his wife Susan, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, *thank you Hashem* for the miracle performed to save R' Aharon Farhi and Mr. Shlomo Balleh, *Hodu L'Hashem Ki Tov, Ki Leolam Chasdo,* Amen. *** **Mr. Faraj Yazdi, his wife Lillian, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Leah Arazi and her family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **The young man Henry Hillel Tawil, his parents, and his siblings.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his sister **Loris Bat Latifah a”h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** The family and friends of the righteous woman Tzadeket Eshet Hayil **Sibhie Bat Rosie, may her soul be bound up in the bonds of eternal life,** Amen. *** **Mrs. Adele Hudeidi and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and their father **Chaim Ben Farha a”h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Edmon Nahum, his wife Lina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat the pure soul of the young child **Yosef Chaim Ben Olga a”h,** Amen. *** **Mr. Ezra Shasho HaLevi and his daughters: Lydi, Silva, Noura, and Tova.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his wife and their mother **Nina Sarah Bat Silva Sabout a”h,** Amen.

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